

**TOWN OF LOCKEPORT  
EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2017  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT: MAYOR GEORGE HARDING, COUNCILLOR JOANN SWIMM, COUNCILLOR DAWN DEMINGS-TAYLOR, COUNCILLOR DAYLE ESHELBY, TOWN CLERK/TREASURER JOYCE YOUNG, RECORDING SECRETARY MARY MEAGHER**

**REGRETS: DEPUTY MAYOR LONNIE TOWNSEND**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Harding at 9:00 a.m.

Purpose of the meeting was to discuss the urgent situation regarding the condition of the Railway section of the Walking Trail. Based on the information available to Council the following motion was made:

**4-26-17-01**

It was duly moved and seconded that,

**WHEREAS**, a section of the abandoned Canadian National Railway was deeded to the Town of Lockeport in 1984; and

**WHEREAS**, this particular section of abandoned railway includes two very large trestles spanning the Lockeport Back Harbour; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Lockeport incorporated this section of abandoned railway into its designated walking trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town has strived to maintain this infrastructure to a safe condition; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town had a structural assessment conducted of the infrastructure in 2013 to determine the condition; and

**WHEREAS**, it was determined by the Engineering Firm that conducted the assessment that at that time, in the condition the trestles were in, the bridges were adequate for pedestrian traffic only; however, ongoing maintenance and monitoring were necessary to secure the continued use; and

**WHEREAS**, the maintenance conducted to the surface boardwalk was completed at that time and Public Works staff have addressed several sink holes in an attempt to maintain the infrastructure in a safe condition; and

**WHEREAS**, due to reports from several residents and the Public Works Department, it is evident that there is continued erosion and deterioration of the rail bed, abutments and timbers of which the trestles are constructed of; and

**WHEREAS**, Council of the Town of Lockeport has an obligation to maintain a safe community; and

**WHEREAS**, Pursuant to Section 50(3) of the Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act, property vested in a municipality, absolutely or in trust, is under the exclusive management and control of the Council, unless an Act of the Legislature provides otherwise.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Council of the Town of Lockeport hereby orders the closure of the abandoned railway section owned by the Town of Lockeport to all use; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that barriers be placed, signs be posted at the entrance locations and notices be posted at various locations indicating the fact that this section of the walking trail is no longer available.

**Motion Passed**

Following the motion there was further discussion concerning similar situations that have occurred in other Municipal units.

The causeway is the only access to the island portion of town. Further discussions are planned regarding establishing a second access. Throughout these discussions engineer services will be contracted to assist Town Council in making decisions regarding the future of the trestles and rail bed infrastructure.

There being no further business, **It was duly moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Time 9:36 a.m.**

**Motion Passed.**

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**Mayor George Harding**

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**Town Clerk/Treasurer – Joyce Young**